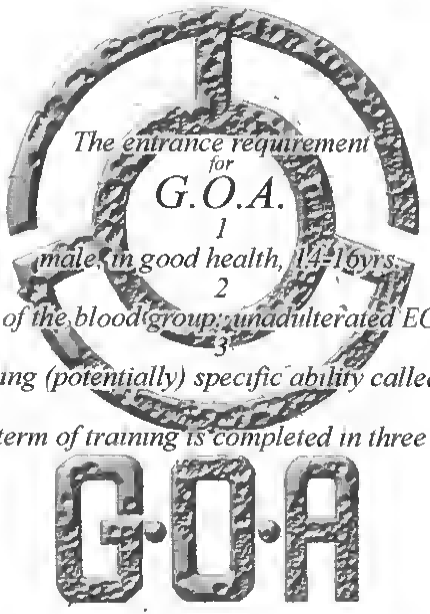
the Candidate for Goddess

4

YUKIRU SUGISAKI

the Candidate for Goddess™



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VOL. 4

BY

YUKIRU SUGISAKI

TOKYOPOP®

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The Candidate For Goddess Vol. 4

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女神候補生

THE CANDIDATE GODDESS

杉崎ゆきる

PILOT
REPAIRER
Ernest Cuore
Age 17 Blood Type EO
170cm, 58kg
The pilot of the Goddess Luhma Klein.
His repairer is Tune Young.
Rioraute Vilgyna
Age 15, Blood Type EO
160cm, 54kg
The pilot of the Goddess Agut Keene.
His repairer is Philemeure Dees.
Yu Hikura
Age 16, Blood Type EO
168cm, 49kg
The pilot of the Goddess Tellia Kellain
His repairer is Kazuhi Hikura
He's younger sister.
Garems Eldd
Age 17 Blood Type EO
170cm, 55kg
The pilot of the Goddess Elena Leene
His repairer is Leena Fullmure.
Teela Zein Elmes
Age 15 Blood Type EO
156cm, 48kg
The best of the five, and G.O.A.'s only female pilot. She is also
Eon Lelles. Her repairer
is unknown

OUTLINE OF STORY

S.C.4088 because of the Crisis of Systems (Lost Property) which destroyed four planetary systems, mankind was forced into space, where they now live in space colonies. Mankind's last hope is the one remaining planet, Zion, but it is being targeted by mysterious enemies called The Giselsha. To fight the Giselsha, Mankind created five giant humanoid weapons, the Ingrids (also known as Goddesses), but the pilots must meet special requirements (male in good health 14~15 years old, blood type EO- potentially having the special ability, EX). G.O.A. was established as a facility to train these pilots, and the students have come to be known as Candidates for Goddess.

The five goddesses manage to defeat the Giselsha. Ernest has misgivings about Gereas' reckless behavior during the battle because he knows Gereas is approaching the limit of being able to contain his own EX. Ernest assures Gereas that he will prevent his EX from going out of control.

Zero teaming up with Eris for a practice match still has trouble with the practice mecha's slow reaction speed. He fights a good fight but is dropped off the field. A strange scene plays out in Zero's mind. A boy and a girl are climbing a tree. Because the boy is careless, the girl falls and is hurt. The boy yells out "Kizna." Zero's self-destruct makes him lose his practice match, but he and Eris form a strong, trusting relationship. After the match, Hilead provokes Zero, who punches him, and accidentally hurts Kizna as well. Zero is given one day's detention and ordered to clean G.O.A. Zero is afraid of the vacuum of outer space, but needs Kizna's words of encouragement and "swims" through space to complete his assignment. Later while Zero and Kizna train, Eris and Rome suggest they use Quarvis to practice. During practice, Eris catches a glimpse of Zero's future...

Characters

HILEAD CINER
A Goddess Candidate of the same class as Zero
His number is 07
KIZNA TOWRYK
A repairer candidate.
Her partner is Zelo Enos
ZERO ENNA
A Goddess Candidate from a remote colony.
His number is 00
IKHNY ALLECTO
A repairer candidate.
Her partner is Hilead Giner.
ERTS VIRNY COCTEAU
One of the top Goddess Candidates.
His number is 05.
CLAY CLIFF FORTRAN
A Goddess Candidate in the same class as Zero
His number is 09.
AZUMA HIIKATA
A first-class instructor at G.O.A.
He's the top instructor.
ROOSE SAWAMURA
A Goddess Candidate of the same class as Zero
His number is 15
YAMAGI KUSHIDA
A Goddess Candidate in same class as Zero
His number is 16.

SAKI MIMORI: A repairer candidate. Her partner is Clay Cliff Fortran.

TSUKASA KUSCHA: A repairer candidate. Her partner is Yamagi Kushida.

WRECKA TOESING: A repairer candidate. Her partner is Roose Sawamura.

BILL CROFORD: G.O.A.'s brigade director.

FORCE WARTLLIAM: One of the top Goddess Candidates. His number is 04.

SURE LA CARD: One of the top Goddess Candidates. His number is 02.

YOSHINO SAKARAGI: One of the top Goddess Candidates. His number is 08.

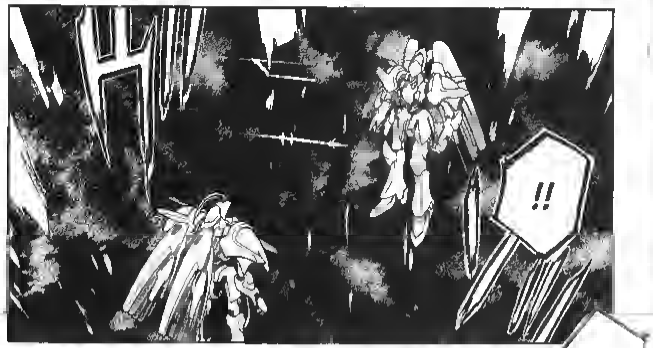
ARACO NAKOCKE: One of the top Goddess Candidates. His number is 04.

DR. CROW REVOARD: ?

MyH 15 GUNNING DOWN

MyH 15 GUNNING DOWN 011
MyH 16 UNKNOWN 029
MyH 17 TO THE WATER 071
MyH 18 FINAL FAREWELL 093
MyH 19 MY DEAR OLD HOME… 123

...WHAT THE...?
?!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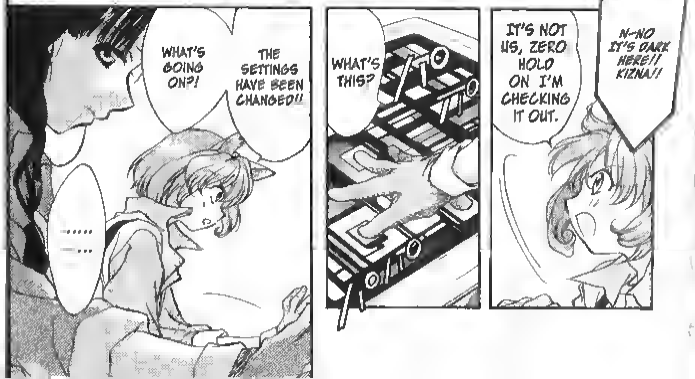
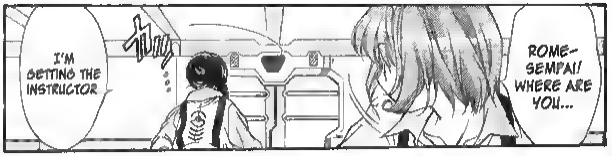

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THE SETTINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGED!!
.....
...
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S NOT US, ZERO HOLO ON I'M CHECKING IT OUT.
N-NO IT'S DARK HERE!! KIZNA!!

THE GODDESS...
SHE'S NOT DESCEND-ING....
GODDESS?
.....
.....

WHAT IN--? KIZNA!!
ZERO!!
!!
THE INVADER IS... NUMBER 87!!
HIEAD GNER ?!
G-O-A
SOMEONE'S FORCED THEIR WAY IN FROM ANOTHER QUADYUL!! THEY'EE CONTROLLING THE BATTLE SETTINGS!
I GOT IT!!
FORCED?

MAYBE IT'S ANOTHER CANOIDA--
SOME-ONE'S BEEN HERE
HEY! ERTS?!
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN RESET

ERTS!!


I'M SETTING THE INSTRUCTOR
ROME-SEMPAI! WHERE ARE YOU...

WHAT THE?! HEY...
THE SCENERY. IT'S CHANGING
EH?
I'M SORRY.

YOU'RE THE TOP CANDIDATE.
AS YOUR PARTNER, I CAN'T LET YOU LOSE POINTS OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!
IF YOU GET INVOLVED IN THEIR PERSONAL BATTLE, YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE POINTS!!
...LET'S GO.
SO, PLEASE...
LET HIM STOP THEM
BESIDES, I TOLD INSTRUCTOR AZUMA.
I CAN'T STAND ---
WHAT IN BLAZES IS WRONG WITH YOU?
CUT IT OUT, HIBARI!!

!!!
ANSWER ME, IKHNV!!
DO YOU HAVE PERMIS-SION?
HOW IS HE...?
NO, ERTS-SAN!
WE HAVE TO STOP THEM.
ANO ...
WHEN HE CAME IN, 87 BLOCK-ED 88
WHY DIDN'T HE STOP ZERO?
HE ONLY FORCED ME TO STOP.

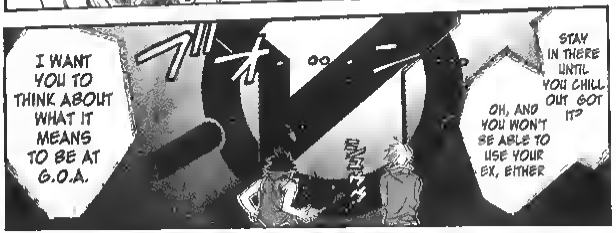
YOU'RE LOSING MAJOR POINTS!!
YOU'RE LOSING POINTS!!
BREAK IT UP AND GET DOWN HERE!!
G.O.A.
DON'T EVER USE G.O.A.'S EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR STUPID PERSONAL SQUABBLES! GOT IT?!
GOT IT?
AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR EXCUSES!
!!
I GOT PERMISSION--LATE, IS ALL!!

YOUR WHOLE EXISTENCE!!
HUH?
YOU'RE NOT MAKING SENSE
--THE SIGHT OF YOU!!
WHAT'S NOT MAKING SENSE IS BOTH OF YOU!
!!

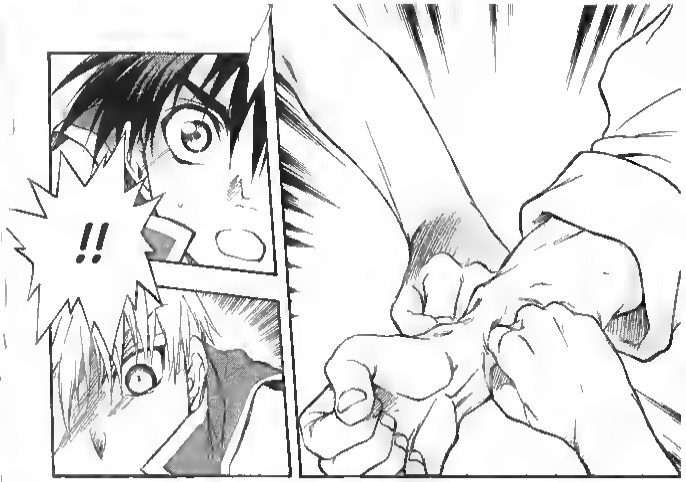
DAMMIT!! EX?!
!!

LIKE I SAID, I... JUST GOT IT LATE.
HEY!!
KNOCK IT OFF!
DIDN'T I JUST TELL YOU I'M NOT LISTENING TO YOUR EXCUSES?!
YEAH. JUST LIKE OS!
YOU COULD'VE RUN AWAY-- IF YOU'D THOUGHT OF IT.
!
I DIDN'T STOP YOU FROM LEAVING!
88!! STOP IT!!
ERTS ISN'T LIKE THAT!!

LEMME OUT!!
WHAAHHH!!
OW!
WE'RE BEING LOCKED IN?
INSTRUCTOR!! HEEY!!


I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AT G.O.A.
STAY IN THERE UNTIL YOU CHILL OUT GOT IT?
OH, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO USE YOUR EX, EITHER

A DEVICE THAT MESSES UP OUR BRAIN WAVES WHEN WE USE EX, AND WON'T LET US CONCENTRATE.
THIS REALLY IS A "SELF-EXAMINATION ROOM."
WHAT IT MEANS... TO BE AT G.O.A...


!!

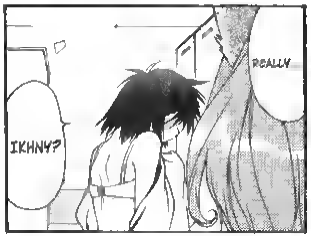
DAMN.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?

--WHERE YOU WON'T EVER BE ABLE TO USE ANY OF THAT DANGEROUS STUFF.
OKAY. GUESS WHAT, BOYS? I'M SENDING YOU--

--AND...
WE'VE BOTH GOT THE SAME EX.
YEAH, I COULD'VE ESCAPED.
BUT I DON'T RUN AWAY.
I...I WANTED TO FIGHT HIM.
ゴ
ゴゴ
ゴゴ

.....
.....
I MEAN IT!
IS HE STUPID?
HEY, HIEAD!
WHEN A GUY PICKS A FIGHT WITH ME, I FIGHT BACK!!
SO WATCH YOUR STEP.
ゴ
ゴゴ
BUT HOW?
I KNEW HE WAS THERE.
...I FELT LIKE I KNEW IT, SOMEHOW.
SOON AS HE D TRESPASSED IN GUARYU...

DR. CROW REVOARD



MyH 16 UNKNOWN

GOA

.. BUT THE TWO OF YOU CAN SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT TO EACH OTHER.
MAY-BE...
I mean my God he's an idiot
LOOK AT HIM HE DOES ALL THESE CRAZY THINGS.
I MEAN, C'MON HE NEVER LISTENS TO ANYTHING I SAY!

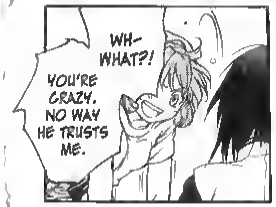
IKHNY...
THAT'S WHY I ENVY YOU.
YOU'RE LIKE REAL PARTNERS...

LIKE IT OR NOT, IKHNY...
...ONLY YOU CAN BE HIS PARTNER!!
LOOK-- JUST DON'T GIVE UP ON HIM!
O-OKAY..

WHAT-EVER.

...TO BE HIEAO-SAN'S PARTNER?
I DON'T GET IT.
WHY DID THEY PICK ME...

YOU THINK MAYBE HE HATES ME BECAUSE ALL I DO IS DRAG HIM DOWN?
...EVEN I KNOW THAT.
I MEAN, I DON'T THINK THINGS THROUGH. I'M KINDA DUMB...

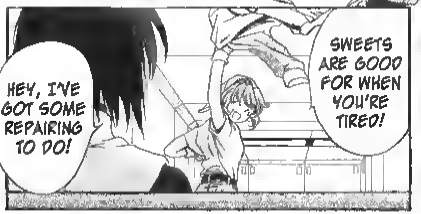

WH-WHAT?!
YOU'RE CRAZY. NO WAY HE TRUSTS ME.

ZERO-SAN TRUSTS YOU.
I...
I ENVY YOU, KIZNA-SAN.

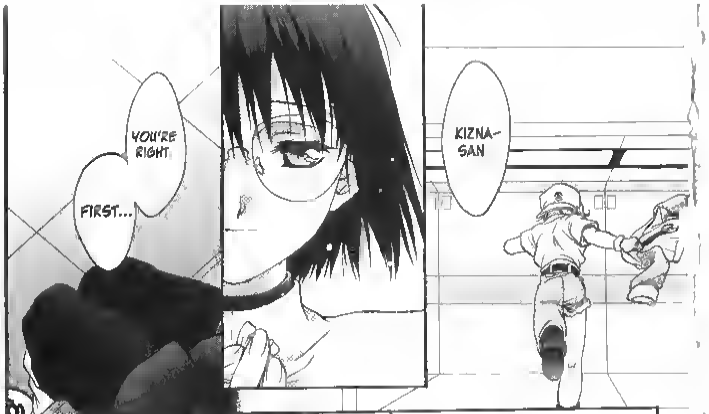
...EH?
YOU DON'T REALLY HATE HIM, DO YOU?

KIZNA-SAN...
LOOK.
I KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHAT HE'S THINKING, BUT STILL!!!
You're so blunt
And he looks sinister!

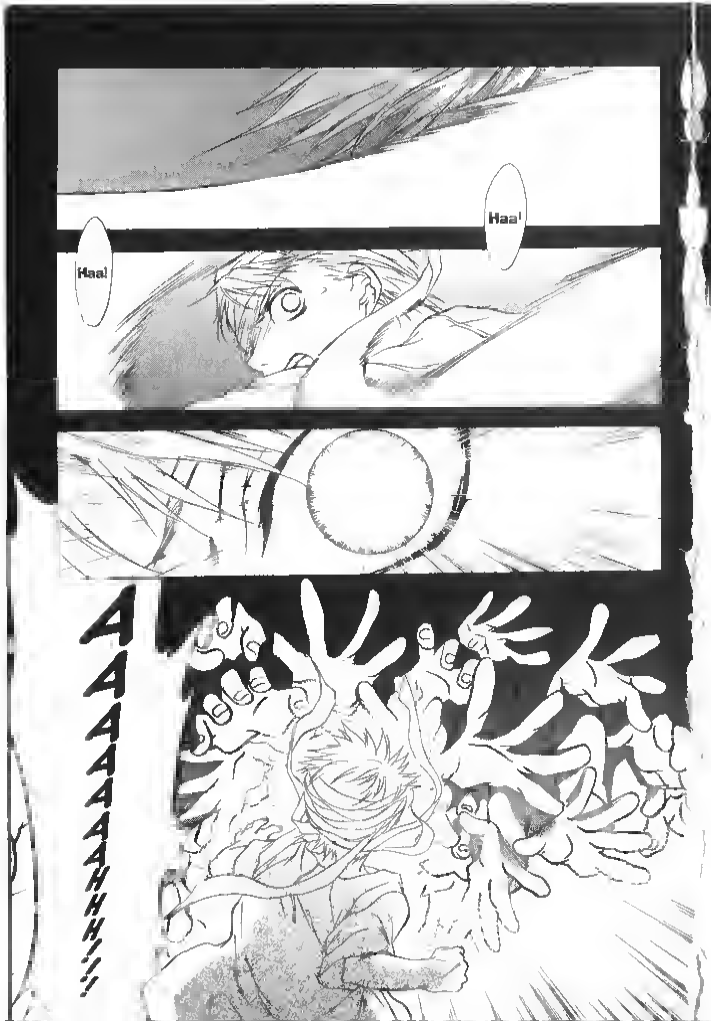
Hmm
'SIDES, YOU'RE MORE COMPATIBLE WITH HIM THAN I'D EVER BE
IN THAT CASE, ISN'T IT A BIT EARLY TO JUMP TO CONCLU-SIONS?
IT'LL BE OKAY!!


HEY, I'VE GOT SOME REPAIRING TO DO!
SWEETS ARE GOOD FOR WHEN YOU'RE TIRED!

!


YOU'RE RIGHT.
FIRST...
KIZNA-SAN

...I'LL TRY TO UNDER-STAND HIEAO-SAN
HE IS MY PARTNER.


Haa!
Haa!
AAAAAAAHHH!!!

Haa
Haa!
Hah!
Haa!
Hah!
THIS... AGAIN?!
Hah!
Hah!
...HOWEVER MANY TIMES I SHAKE FREE...
HOWEVER MANY TIMES...
Haa!
Haa!

SO...
THIS ONE IS ANOTHER FAILURE?
ANOTHER...?
FAILURE...?!
"LIMIT"...?
A VOICE
COMPLETE MANKING
SINCE THE CRISIS OF PLANETS, THE NUMBER OF HUMANS WITH TYPE EO BLOOD HAS BEEN DECREASING YEARLY
WHATEVER WE DO, THAT BOY..
CALLED
...TO ME...?
!
NO!!
THIS ISN'T ME!!

MAYBE WE SHOULD TELL AZUM...
SHUT UP! JUST MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!!
YOU WERE SO QUIET, I THOUGHT YOU WERE SLEEPING.
BUT THEN YOU STARTED SWEATING BULLETS.
SO THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT?
LEAVE...
ME ALONE!
WELL, FORGET IT.
GO AHEAD AND KILL YOURSELF!
WAS I EVER WRONG TO WORRY ABOUT YOU!!
H...
H...
THESE...
...AREN'T MY MEMORIES!!
ARE YOU SICK OR SOMETHING?
MAN, YOU'RE PALE.
!!
HEY, HIEAD!!
...EAD!

IT'S ALL RIGHT. THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS.
DOIN STUFF LIKE THIS
IT'S DEFINITELY GOING TO BE TROUBLE. OY.
-SHOULD WE REALLY BE DOING THIS?
HEY.
I'VE TRIED THAT, TOO.
BESIDES IF WE WANT TO FIND SOMETHING, CAN'T WE LOOK IT UP ON A PUBLIC DATABASE?
FIRST OF ALL, I CAN'T GET MOST OF THE ANSWERS
BUT IT'S HARD TO FIND THINGS ON THE COMPUTER TERMINAL IN OUR ROOM
THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL HACKING!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS MAJOR HACKING.
WE'RE JUST DOING A LITTLE INVESTIGATION BASED ON INNOCENT CURIOSITY

MAN, WHAT IS IT WITH HIM?
I MEAN, HE'S THE ONE WHO STARTED BUTTING IN ON OTHER PEOPLE'S...
!
.....

...?

HM?
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?
WHAT'S NEXT?
WELL?
WOW.
THAT'S GREAT.
HEY
89?
WHAT'S WRONG?
HM?
YOU IDIOT!!
I-I-I-I'M SORRY!!
NEXT TIME YOU TRY THAT, YOU'RE OUTTA HERE!!
WHY CAN'T YOU PUNKS STAY OUT OF TROUBLE!?!
THIS IS SO CONFISCATED! I'M NOT LETTING IT OUT OF MY SIGHT FOR A SECOND!
PUNKS?
But we weren't doing anything.

EX?!
IT APPEARS TO BE QUITE TOP SECRET.
YAMADA-KUN!
EX. EXAX ABILITY.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU LOOKING UP?
YOU CAN'T GET WHAT?
SO I CAN'T GET IT HERE EITHER?
HMM
YOU'RE SO MEAN!
WHAT ARE YOU DO--
I SAID STAY AWAY!!
EUREKA!
AH!
THIS'LL WORK... THIS'LL WORK!!
I SEE, I SEE I COULD HAVE DONE THIS!
WHAT? WHAT?
YOU FOUND SOME-THING?

I'VE FIGURED OUT ONE THING ABOUT THIS.
THE MARKING?
REMEMBER WHAT INSTRUCTOR AZUMA SAID?
WITH THIS, THEY CAN TELL WHERE WE ARE
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT IT PROBABLY GAVE OFF SOME KIND OF SIGNAL
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT HAS A MORE IMPORTANT MEANING.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
CONVERSELY
IT'S NOWHERE BUT HERE.
IN OTHER WORDS, ALL OUR DATA IS PACKED IN HERE.
THIS IS OUR ECOLOGICAL CODE
PROOF OF OUR EXISTENCE
AND THE PASSWORD..
...HAS BEEN DELETED.
OUR DATA...

I TOLD YOU TO STOP.
YOU OKAY, CLAY?
INSTRUCTOR AZUMA MUST BE IN A BAD MOOD
I, CLAY CLIFF FORTRAN, AM NOT SO CARELESS!!
WAIT WAIT WAIT WAIT!
HEH
WH-WHAT THE?
I'VE GOT IT ALL NOW.
THERE! THE PASSWORD'S ALREADY ENTERED! PERFECT!
AND I HAVE LOTS OF SPARES!
YESSS!!!
I BACKED UP ALL THE INFORMATION!!
SOMETHING WRONG?
AND HE THOUGHT I'D GIVE UP?!

WHAT IS ZERO DOING?
wave
hit
hit
I THINK HE'S...
PRETENDING TO START A PRACTICE INGKID.
IMPOS-SIBLE.
HE WAS SO AWFUL IN CLASS...

NO...!
IT'S BEEN DELETED?!
CLAY, YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?!
THIS IS NO JOKE.
...IS UNKNOWN.
HMMM. PERHAPS WE SHOULD DISCUSS THIS WITH ZERO AND HIEAD.
NUMBER 88--
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
AND HE'S WITH HIEAD!!
NO 87
NO 88
WHAT?! HE'S IN THE EX LIMITING ROOM?!
THEY PROBABLY HAD ANOTHER FIGHT...
TRY CALLING THEM!

CONFIR-
MATION...
...
COMPLETE!
I CAN'T
SEE HIM
AS
ANY-
THING...
...BUT A
PILOT...
THAT
PUNK...
DOESN'T
HE THINK
OF
ANYTHING
BUT BEING
A PILOT?

BUT
NOW HE'S
COMPLETELY...
...
MASTERED
IT!

ALL RIGHT?!
DON'T WASTE ANY BULLETS!!
AIM CAREFULLY!!
EVERYONE'S HERE, RIGHT?!
LET'S START WITH 85! DON'T GET KNOCKED OUT FROM BEHIND!
READY TO GO!!
NUMBER 88...
...ZERO ENNA!!

NEXT!!
FIRE!
FIRE!

AFTER DOING ALL THAT BUGY WORK, HASN'T YOUR HAND CRAMPED UP?
"BUGY"?
THIS IS JUST FIRING PRACTICE.
AAAAAHHH
MY HAND HURTS.
OWW
I'M NOT THAT MUCH SHORTER THAN YOU AND HIEAD!
Don't look.
Don't call me a little guy.
NOT BAD SHOOTING FOR SUCH A LITTLE GUY.
MY BACK.
I SAID IT DOESN'T HURT!!
Down
Right
YEAH, I KNOW! IT HURTS, RIGHT?

PILOT!
YOUR TARGET'S ON THE MOVE
DON'T MISS!! MAKE SURE OF YOUR TARGET, THEN HIT IT!!
NOW YOU GUYS HAVE SOMETHING TO STAND ON!
FIRE!
ALL RIGHT, NEXT!
PLEASE DROP YOUR ALIGNMENT TWO LEVELS.
...SOMEHOW, IKHNY SEEMS FINE...
I WAS WORRIED, BUT...
PLEASE START PREPARING FOR THE NEXT ONE
OH! SORRY, SORRY!
HEY!
KIZNA! GIVE ME THE REPORT!!

ZERO, YOU ASKED ME IF I COULD REMEMBER MY MOTHER'S FACE, RIGHT?
HUH?
YEAH...

WELL, YOU EVER HAVE THE FEELING THAT YOU COULDN'T EVER FORGET?
FOR EVEN A SECOND?
FOR-EVER?

CLAY!
NO, NEVER MIND.
IT'S NOTHING. FORGET IT.
...?
I THINK THERE ARE THINGS...
...I DON'T WANT TO FORGET.

VAMAGI, YOU WERE VERY STABLE, BUT...
...SOMETIMES YOU WERE A LITTLE TO THE LEFT. YOU SHOULD CHECK YOUR SETTINGS THE WAY YOU DID THE TENTH TIME
ZERO.
THE FIRST TWO TIMES, YOUR AIM WAS A LITTLE HIGH, SO THE THIRD AND SEVENTH TIMES YOU DROPPED IT THREE DEGREES, RIGHT?
THE SEVENTEENTH AND FOURTH TIMES WERE THE BEST, AS FAR AS TIMING
OH...OH YEAH.

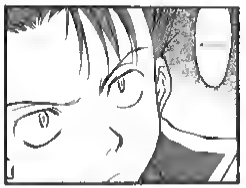
FOR NOW, OUR JOB IS TO HIT THE TARGET, EVEN IF YOU'RE A LITTLE SLOW.
WHA--HEY!
DO YOU REMEMBER EVERY-THING?!
YES.
LET'S PUT THAT ASIDE.
YOUR ACCURACY REALLY SUCKS.
THIS IS THE KIND OF THING I DO.

C'MON! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE, YU-CHAAAAN!
I'M COMING IN!!
HEY, YUUUUUUU!!

OOKAY, KAZUHI-CHAN'S HERE, TOO!
OOH!
ADORABLE AS USUAL
GRAB

YU, HEY--
--HAVE YOU SEEN THAT IDIOT GAREAS?

...ZERO.
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU...



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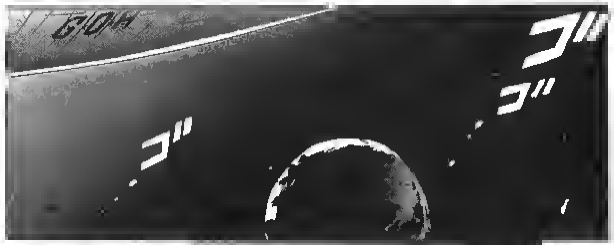
WEIRDO


GOH
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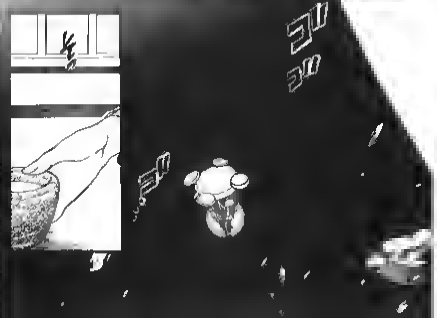
HERE, ONII-SAMA.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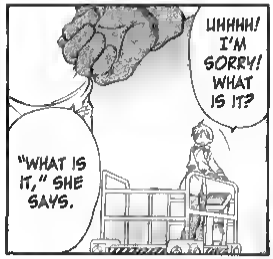
I HAVEN'T SEEN GAREAS.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THAT HURT!
HEY!
AND WHATEVER'S WRONG IS HURTING HIS FIGHTING
I MEAN--
--I'M WORRIED ABOUT NIM!
UN.
I MEAN, WITH HIM ACTING LIKE THAT, HE'S NO FUN WHATSOEVER
HE HASN'T BEEN GOOD LATELY, YOU KNOW.
COUGH
GAH!
B-BITTER
MY OWN PERSONAL SPIDER SENSE.
I KNOW ABOUT THESE KINDS OF THINGS.
ISN'T HE? ISN'T HE?
HE IS A LITTLE

AH! KAZUHI-CHAN, NEXT TIME, WHY DON'T WE .
!!
ON WELL. I'LL KEEP LOOKING FOR HIM...
DOES HE ALWAYS DRINK THIS STUFF ..?
I HATE.
...CRUDE PEOPLE.
OOOOOOHHHH-
HMM. WHEN I THINK OF IT. .
JUST SIPPING TEA LIKE NOTHING'S GOING ON.
MAN
DARN THAT YU WITH HIS SWEET FACE, YOU'D NEVER GUESS HE'S SO SHORT-TEMPERED!

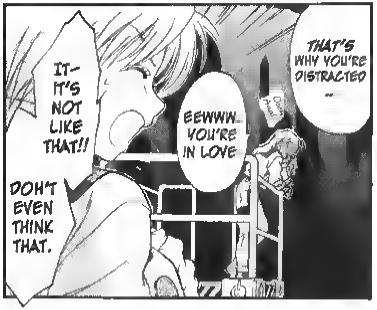

UHHHH! I'M SORRY! WHAT IS IT?
"WHAT IS IT," SHE SAYS.

TUNE!!

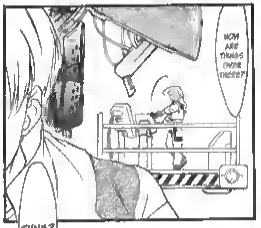
!
YOU CAN'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN JUST BECAUSE THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY ATTACKS LATELY.

I SEE.
...OH.

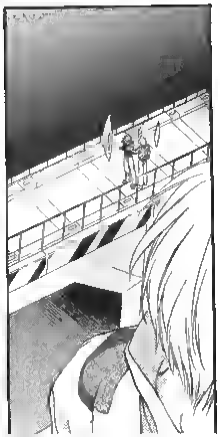
WELL?
HAVE YOU TOLD HIM?

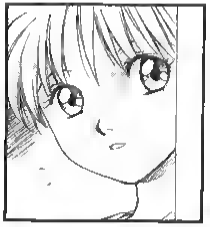

IT- IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!!
DON'T EVEN THINK THAT.
EEWWW. YOU'RE IN LOVE
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE DISTRACTED

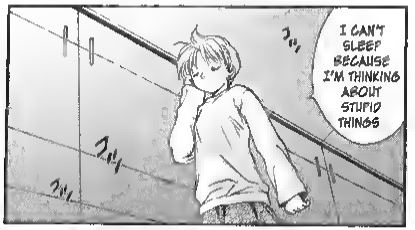
IT'S CREEPY...
...THIS PLACE HAS BEEN TOO QUIET RECENTLY.


MOM ARE THINGS (WITH THEM) CREEPY?

TUNE?






I CAN'T SLEEP BECAUSE I'M THINKING ABOUT STUPID THINGS

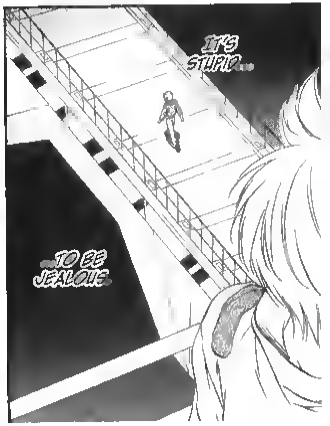
ANYWAY, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!!
YEAH, RIGHT

You do remember he's a telepath?
I THINK HE ALREADY KNOWS.
BSPE-CIALLY AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
IT WOULD BE INAPPRO-PRIATE.

I'M NOT GOING TO.

I FEEL LIKE THE ONLY ONE ERNEST-SAN OPENS UP TO...
...IS GAREAS-SAN.
BUT...

TO BE JEALOUS

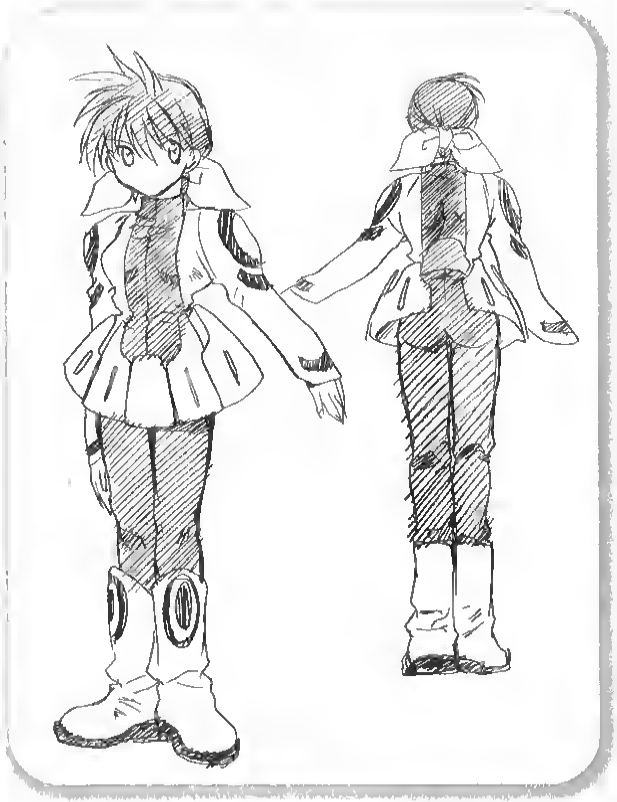

IT'S STUPID...

HE'S STARTING TO THINK...
...THAT HE HAS TO FIGHT AND FIGHT, AND KEEP FIGHTING.
EVEN IF...
AND HE DOESN'T CARE.
...THAT MEANS HE WON'T...
BUT THAT'S...!
...COME BACK.
WHEN WE'RE FIGHTING, SOMETIMES I FORGET..
...THIS BATTLE CAN'T BE JUST ABOUT FIGHTING.
IT'S ABOUT WHY WE'RE DOING THIS... AND ABOUT PEACE.
BUT GAREAS IS BECOMING THAT WAY.

OH TUNE...
SAN.
ERNEST.
WHEN I LOOK AT ZION, I REMEMBER.
I REMEMBER.. WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING TO PROTECT
NO I WAS LOOKING AT THE STARS.
THE STARS?
CAN'T SLEEP, EH?
...

PHILPHLEDRA DEEP

NEW SUIT



MYTH 17 TO THE WATER

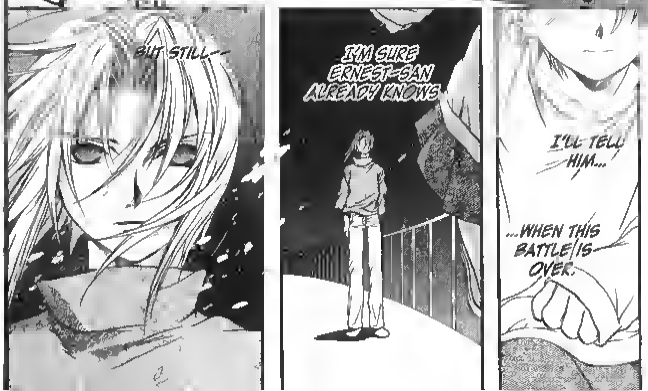
GOA

...
...
ERNEST SAN...?
.....!
...
...
TUNE...
ERNEST-SAN.
...I...!
I...
ER--
ERNEST-SAN, I...I--
ドキ
ドキ

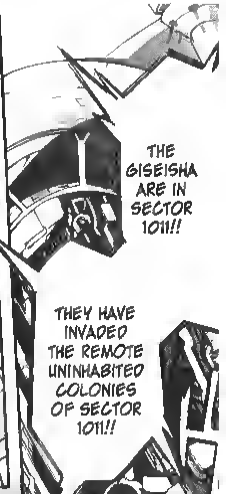
I... UNDER-STAND.
...UNTIL THE VERY END!
ERNEST-SAN..!
YES...!
!

...EVEN IF IT'S INTERRUPTED..
..I KNOW TOMORROW'S WEB OF HOPE...
...IS STILL BEING SPUN.
THAT'S WHY I CAN FIGHT...

I KNOW!
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!
RIO!! HURRY!!
YES!
TUNE, GET READY!!
THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW FAR I CAN SPREAD A NET OVER A GROUP!
YOU CAN BARELY SEE THEM!!
I REPEAT, EVERYONE GET READY FOR BATTLE!
THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED CONFIRMED!!
SET TO CONNECT TO OUTER SPACE IN FIVE MINUTES
EVERYONE, GET READY FOR BATTLE!

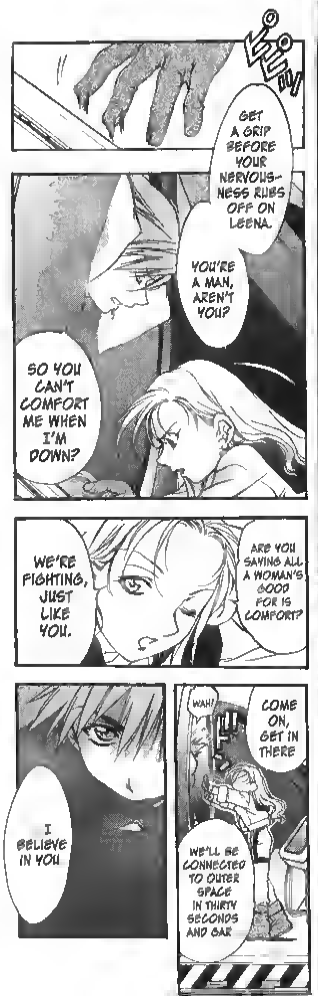

BUT STILL--
I'M SURE ERNEST-SAN ALREADY KNOWS
I'LL TELL HIM...
...WHEN THIS BATTLE IS OVER.

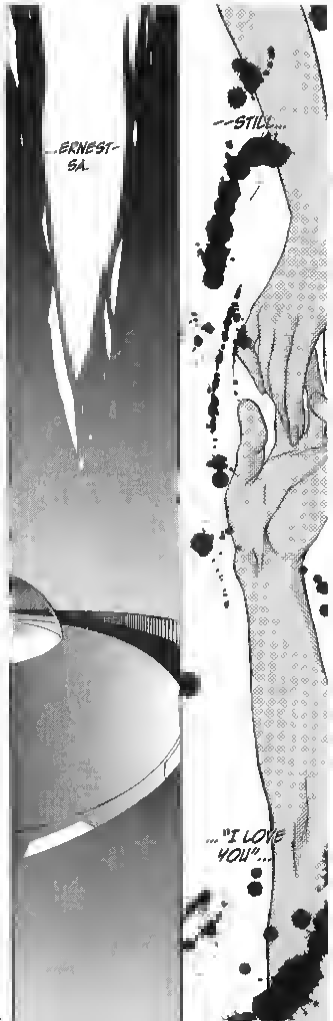
THEY ARE TYPE-D GISEISHA!! THEY NUMBER BETWEEN 1,000 AND 2,000!
I REPEAT, THE GISEISHA ARE INVADING!! PILOTS PREPARE FOR BATTLE!!


THE GISEISHA ARE IN SECTOR 1011!!
THEY HAVE INVADED THE REMOTE UNINHABITED COLONIES OF SECTOR 1011!!

ALL PILOTS PREPARE FOR BATTLE!!
THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR ZION!!
NOW, THREE THOUSAND CONFIRMED!
ALL RIGHT!

HEY!! WHY CAN'T WE DO THAT?!
SHUT UP ALREADY!!
BE SURE TO COME BACK.
ONII-SAMA.
...SHE'S HAVING A HARD TIME STANDING UP.
ONCE SHE'S MOVING, I'LL MANAGE
AGUI KEAMEIA, READY FOR LAUNCH!!
EEVA LEENA, READY FOR LAUNCH.
!

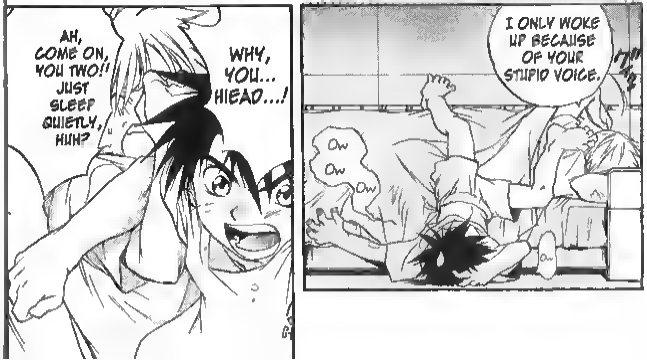

GET A GRIP BEFORE YOUR NERVOUSNESS RUBS OFF ON LEENA.
YOU'RE A MAN, AREN'T YOU?
SO YOU CAN'T COMFORT ME WHEN I'M DOWN?
ARE YOU SAYING ALL A WOMAN'S GOOD FOR IS COMFORT?
WE'RE FIGHTING, JUST LIKE YOU.
I BELIEVE IN YOU
WAH!
COME ON, GET IN THERE
WE'LL BE CONNECTED TO OUTER SPACE IN THIRTY SECONDS AND GAR


...ERNEST-SA.
--STILL...
..."I LOVE YOU"...

STUPID P.A. HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO SLEEP?
run
run
run
87
88
89

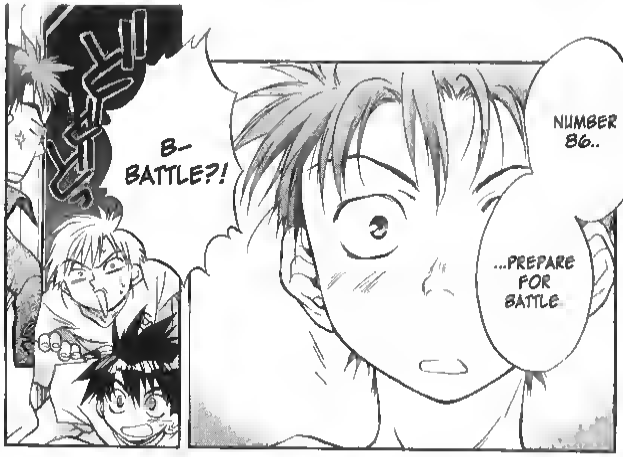
TELLIA KALLISTO, READY FOR LAUNCH!!
I'M ALMOST READY TO GO.
SORRY I'M LATE, FIRST!!
?
YOU'LL HEAR A GREAT DEAL.
...OF SCREAMS.
.....
WILL YOU BE YOU ALL RIGHT...?

Arrogant
CAN YOU SAY ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T GET ON MY NERVES?
C'MON. JUST TELL ME IF IT BOTHERS YOU. GO AHEAD. TELL ME.
OW!


AH, COME ON, YOU TWO!! JUST SLEEP QUIETLY, HUH?
WHY, YOU... HIEAD...!
I ONLY WOKE UP BECAUSE OF YOUR STUPID VOICE.
Ow
Ow
Ow

FORGET IT, NO SLEEPING!
BUT FOR NOW, ALL WE REALLY CAN DO IS SLEE...
I THINK THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE SHOULD DO.
THEY CAN'T EXPECT US TO STAY HERE AND SLEEP!
THE PILOTS ARE FIGHTING!!!
HIEAD! HEY! YOU CAN'T SLEEP EITHER!
YOU MISERABLE
WHY THE BLAZES ARE YOU STEPPING ON MY FACE?

...
...
Aaahhhhh Cursed cursed
SHUT UP.


B-BATTLE?!
NUMBER 86..
...PREPARE FOR BATTLE

YOUR REFAIRER'S WORKING ON IT. I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE MINUTES TO GET USED TO IT
YOU'RE OFF TO FIGHT YOUR SETTINGS WILL BE CHANGED TO MANEUVER IN OUTER SPACE
Y--
YES SIR!!

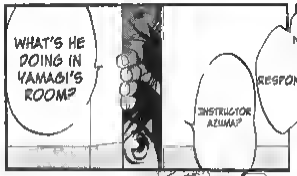
WHATEVER GISEISHA THE FIVE GOO-DESSES DON'T HIT, THE TOP FIVE WILL TARGET
THE ONES THEY MISS, YOU AIM AT AND SHOOT!

JUST STICK CLOSE TO G.O.A.

BUT YOU'RE GOING STRICTLY AS BACKUP.
THAT'S AMAGI-SAN, YAMAGI-KUN

WHAT'S ?

BAM
beep
!
run
run
run


WHAT'S HE DOING IN YAMAGI'S ROOM?
INSTRUCTOR AZUMA?
NUMBER 86
RESPOND!

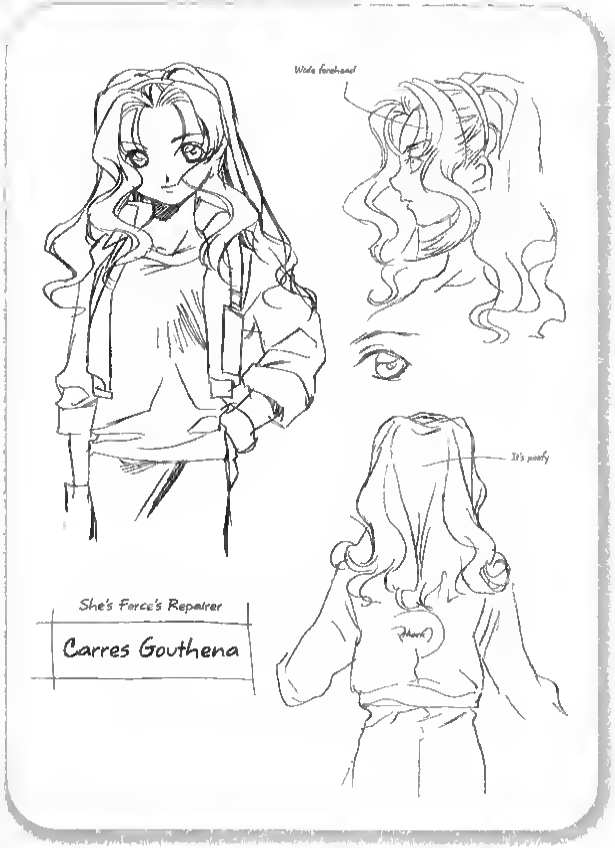
I'VE GOT ORDERS FOR YOU. HURRY AND GET READY!
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S YAMAGI!!

THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO...
...TO BECOME A PILOT.
WE'RE NOT PLAYING HOUSE.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, GET BETTER THAN 86. THEN WE'LL SEND YOU TO FIGHT.
ARE YOU GOING OUT, TOO?
beep
NO.
ERTS!
ZERO!

I-INSTRUCTOR!!
ME!! WHAT ABOUT ME?!
WELL, IF THE GISEISHA GET TO US, IT'S OVER ANYWAY.
SIMPLE ENOUGH FOR YOU?!
DON'T DO ANYTHING EXCEPT THAT. GOT IT?
YES SIR!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY ORDERS.
GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM.
YOUR MARKSMANSHIP ISN'T AS GOOD AS 86'S.
AND IF YOU HAVE NO ABILITY, YOU DON'T FIGHT.
WHY DOES ONLY YAMAGI...!
YOU'LL ONLY BE A BURDEN.

VIOLENCE WON'T HELP ANYTHING!
ZERO!!
W-WAIT A SECOND!!
WASN'T HE EVEN WATCHING HOW STRONG WE ARE?!
...N'T EVEN WATCHING?
EH?
I'LL BE BETTER!!
I WILL!!
I'LL SHOW HIM!!

HURRY!!
FORGET ABOUT HIM!
ERTS!! HURRY UP!!
ZERO!
THE OTHER DAY...
THEY SAY...
...I'M NOT READY.
...
...
ZERO


Wide forehead
It's poofy
She's Force's Repairer
Carres Gouthena

I WILL BE A PILOT!!

G.I.S
THE GISEISHA HAVE INVADED THE REMOTE UNINHABITED COLONIES OF SECTOR 1011!!
THERE ARE THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED OF THEM. ALL TYPE-D.
THE FIVE GODDESSES HAVE BEEN DIS-PATCHED
THE GODDESSES WILL BE IN ATTACK RANGE IN 360 SECONDS!!!
OI...ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
G.I.S. GOING INTO BATTLE MODE!!
3,600 GISEISHA CONFIRMED!!
WHAT...

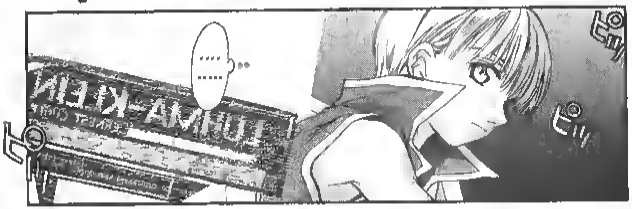
G·O·A

MYTH 18 FINAL FAREWELL

COMMENCE...
...ATTACK!!

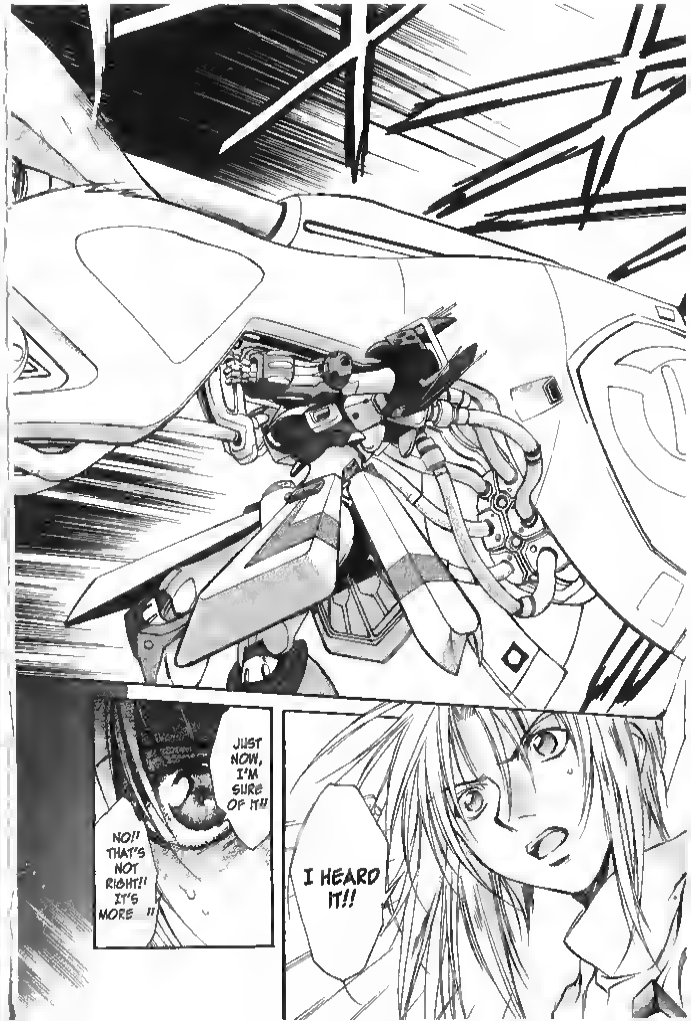
LUHMA, TRANSMIT THE BATTLE DATA TO PRO-INOS 01 THROUGH 05.
THEY'LL BE SUPPORTING US FROM THE REAR.
ROGER.
BEGINNING TRANSFER.
IT'S HERE!!
CONFIRMATION OF THE GODDESSES' LOCATION.
THERE'S STILL SOME DISTANCE TO ZION.

!
WILL THEY REALLY ...COME THIS WAY?
WHAT THE THERE ARE SO MANY


.....
LUHMA-KLEIN

OUT OF THE WAY!! YU!!
EMO-TIONS ...?
...TO TARGET THEM ONE BY ONE?
YOU'RE TELLING ME I'M SUPPOSED TO...
AAAAAH!!
MISERABLE KILLERS... THEY DON'T CARE THAT THEIR FRIENDS ARE BEING DESTROYED.
MAYBE THEY DON'T HAVE EMOTIONS?!
THEY JUST KEEP COMING. LIKE NOTHING ELSE IS IMPORTANT.

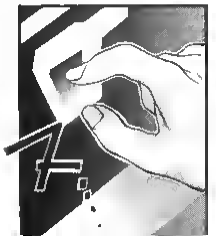
GARGAS!!
GO AFTER THE BOSS I KNOW HE'S IN THERE SOMEWHERE!
THERE'S A CENTRAL CONTROL... THERE MUST BE...


NO!! THAT'S NOT RIGHT!! IT'S MORE !!
JUST NOW, I'M SURE OF IT!!
I HEARD IT!!

NUMBER 05.
RE-SPOND!
4-YES SIR!!
PRO-ING NUMBER 05--
--CAN YOU HEAR ME?
NUMBER 05.
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RADAR OVER THERE.
EH...?
.....!
I'M CONCENTRATING ON THE GIGEIGNA'S FOCUS
IT LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEND INFORMATION TO YOU

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
TRUST YOURSELF. YOU CAN DO IT.
ERTS.
B-BUT!! THAT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE SAME EX AS ME.

GAREAS, NOW JUST--
!
BUT GOING ON LIKE THIS IS JUST A WASTE OF ENERGY.
IF WE DON'T CUT THEIR NUMBERS, THERE'S NO CHANCE IN HELL I'LL FIND IT.
YOU IDIOT...
LEENA!
THE TRANS-MISSION
HURRY AND FIX IT...



SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO FIND THE BOSS.
GAR'S EX SUDDENLY DROPPED!
IF IT KEEPS UP, HE'LL BE IN DANGER...

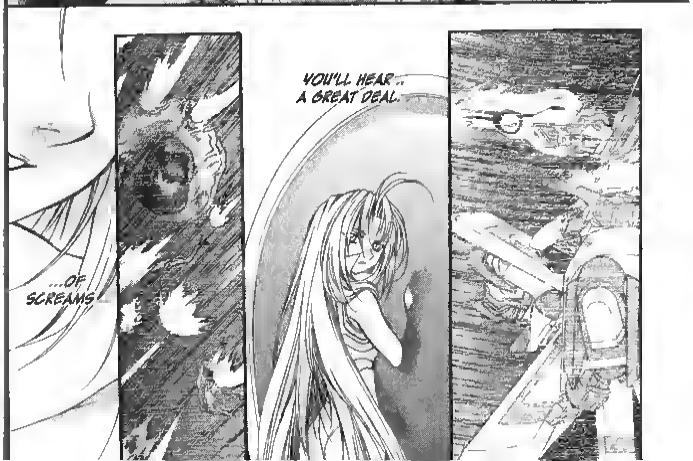
EKTS-SAN IS HAVING AN EX REACTION?!
!
I CAN SEE IT...
WHAT IS THIS FEELING...?
MY POWER
IT'S NOT SEALED ANYMORE...
YES.
OPEN YOUR EYES!!

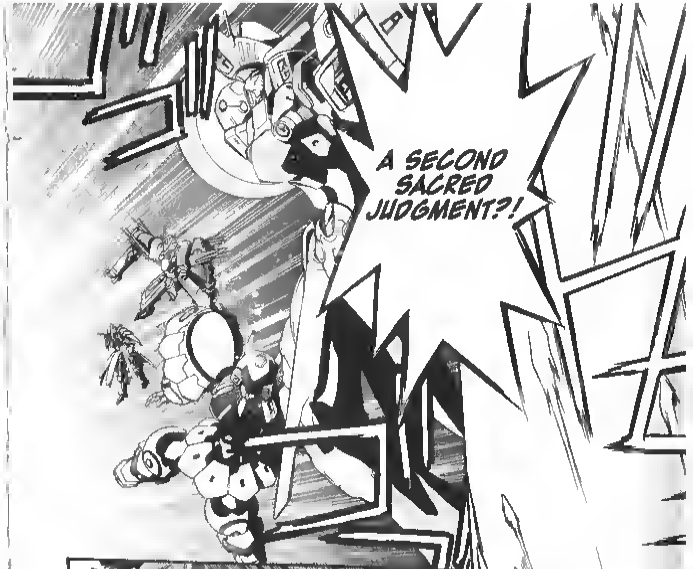
TAKE CARE OF THE PRO-
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE TALKED TO YOU, ISN'T IT?
I... UNDER-STAND...
MISSION ACCEPTED
TRUST YOURSELF.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
MY BROTHER...!

GET READY!!
AT NINE O'CLOCK... NUMBER 02...
NEXT!
ニャコッ
IT'S REALLY THERE!!
WAAHH!
WHAT DO'S HE KNOW? ERS...
IS THIS...
...THE TRUE POWER OF EX?

!!
THERE'S NO REACTION ON THE RADAR
?!
NUMBER 04!!
GISEISHA AT TWO O'CLOCK!!
HEY! ERTS!
NUMBER 01.
...THERE ARE TWO AT FOUR O'CLOCK

AT THIS RATE, THE PLANET'LL BE GONE - AND US WITH IT!!
THEN I'LL TAKE AS MANY WITH ME AS I CAN!!
WHICH ONE IS THE LEADER?!
HOW CAN I FIND IT?!
WHERE?! WHERE IS IT?!


...OF SCREAMS...
YOU'LL HEAR... A GREAT DEAL.


A SECOND SACRED JUDGMENT?!

WHICH ONE IS THE DAMN BOSS?!
I KEEP SHOOTING AND SHOOTING, BUT THERE'S NO END!!
ERNEST!!
HEY!! THE SHIELD WON'T...

GAREAS, I FOUND THE LEADER!!
HURRY, GO BACK...!
ALL COMING FROM--
ERNEST?!
!!

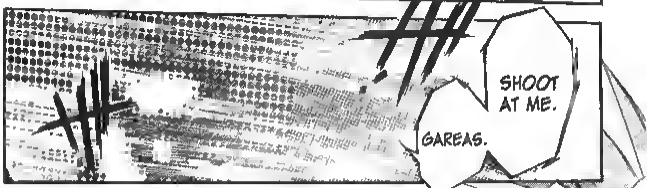
...!!
TELLIA!
I HEAR THEM...!
THE SCREAMS...!
ERNEST!! THAT'S OUTSIDE THE SHIELD!! DON'T...!

!!
EH ...?
WHA...
...!
WHAT THE... HELL...

BEHIND YOU!!!
GAREAS!!!

I'M...
...BEHIND YOU

I'LL BE THE MARK
ARE YOU OKAY?!
THIS ONE. HE'S THE LEADER.
ERNEST!!
GAR EA. S. CAN YOU MOVE..?
!


SHOOT AT ME.
GAREAS.

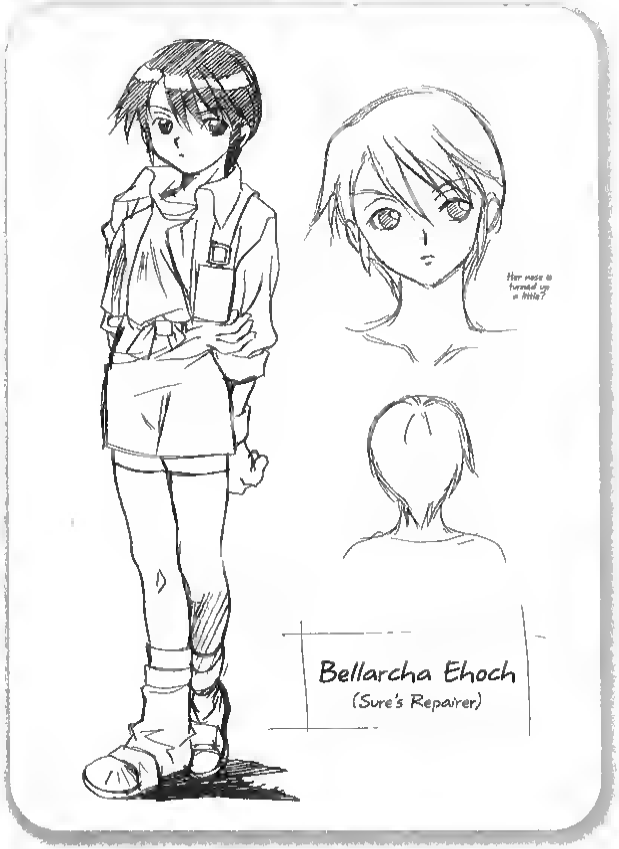
WHERE ARE YOU? ERNEST!! ANSWER ME!!
ERNEST!!
IF I'M NOT HERE... YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND IT AGAIN...
NOW'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE.
YOU DON'T HAVE LONG.
WHA..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MARK?!

I CAN'T SHOOT!!
I CAN'T SHOOT YOU, DAMMIT!!
NOW'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE!!
F-FIRE...!

FIRE...!
GAREAS ...!!
YOU... SHIELDED ME?!
HOLD ON! I'M GOING TO HELP!!
I'M... BEYOND HELP.
GAREAS ...!!

HELTAGE!!!
EVEN IF...
...IT'S INTERRUPTED!
...MIDWAY...

TEELAAAA!
ERNEEESSSTT!!


Her nose is turned up a little?
Bellarcha Ehoch
(Sure's Repairer)

...I'M SURE...
...TOMORROW'S WEB OF HOPE...
...IS STILL BEING SPUN...
...FOR THE FUTURE.
PRO-ING OS.
RETURN TO G.O.A.

MyH 19 MY DEAR OLD HOME...

GOA

!
SO, THERE YOU ARE.
KIZNA...
IT'S WEIRD TO THINK OF THINGS LIKE THIS, BUT...
...IT'S PRETTY.
THE LIGHT FROM THE FIGHTING GOD-DESSES...
..IT'S LIKE A CLUSTER OF STARS.
I'M HERE 'CAUSE THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO SEE IT
YEAH.

THEY WON'T COME THIS FAR.
"STICK CLOSE TO G.O.A.," HE SAYS.
HE SURE WAS RIGHT.
BI
.....
.....
I WANNA GO THERE!
I'M SICK OF WAITING AROUND HERE.
BUT... I WANT TO GO, TOO.

...I DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORIES OF WHEN I WAS SMALL.
ZERO... YOU KNOW...
EH...?
.....
....
I WONDER IF SOMEONE SANG IT TO ME...
...OR...
...MAYBE I...
ALL I REMEMBER IS THIS SONG.

G·O·P
WHAT? IS IT BAD?
Ah hah ha ha
THAT'S SO LIKE YOU.
THAT GALAXY...
...HAVE YOU EVER SEEN IT?
OH, NO. IT'S GOOD.
NOPE.
BUT THAT'S JUST THE FEELING I GET.
...FAMILIAR SOMEHOW.
IT FEELS
I THINK IT'S GOOD TO BE LIKE THAT.
MOM USED TO SING IT TO ME A LOT...
THAT SONG... I KNOW IT, TOO.
...CALLING ME
HOPE AND HESITATION. YOUR VOICE...
I HEAR ...A VOICE.

IT LETS YOU FLY TO ENDLESS SPACE...
A SONG...
...THAT LETS YOU FLY...
..TO ENDLESS
...SPACE...
FIND...
..ME...

...SANG IT TO SOMEONE ELSE...?
BUT IT SAYS, "I WANT SOMEONE TO FIND ME HERE."
THIS SONG...
...IS A SONG ABOUT FEELINGS.

I'LL KILL THEM!!
I'LL KILL THEM!!
I'LL KILL THEM!!
I'LL KILL THEM ALL!!

AARRRGH!!
GAR...!
GAREAS!! STOP IT!!
IF YOU KEEP PUSHING YOURSELF LIKE THIS, YOU'LL...!!

HER SECOND EX...?!
!!
Ziiip
STOP IT!
I'M STILL...!
ONLY FIRST HAS IT.
DID SHE USE IT ON HIM?!
It's humiliating to have it used on you.
...A SECOND EX!!
RETREAT FOR NOW.
RECOVERING THE INGRID TAKES PRIORITY.
WHAT .. WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I'M GOHNA KILL THEM!!
EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!!
THEY KILLED ERNEST!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?!

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NOTICE OF A CHANGE IN PERSONNEL.
I'M ENTRUSTING THE SELECTION TO YOU.
HUH?

THE POWER TO--
--CONTROL THE OTHER INGRIDS!!

Huff...
Huff...
Huff...!
Huff...
TO THE BATTLE-FIELD...
ANOTHER ONE
Huff...!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff
Huff...
Huff
Huff
Huff...
Huff
Huff...

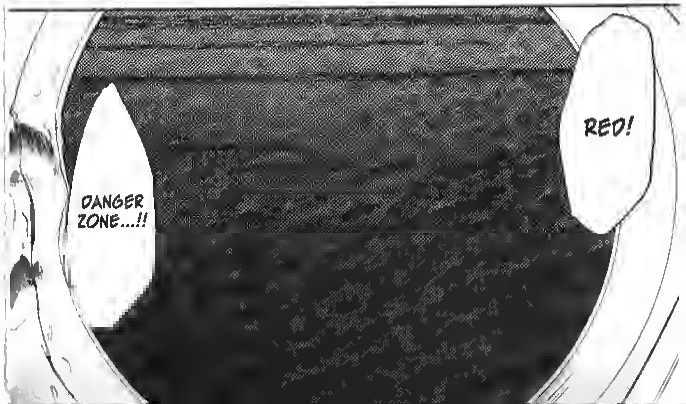
NO.

NOW REPORTING..
..THE SITUA-TION..

RE... PORT...
THE PILOT IS DEAD...
HE IS NO LONGE... OF ANY USE...
THE INGRID..

!!
beep
bee-beep

!!


RED!
DANGER ZONE...!!

RETURN...
...TO THE MISSION.
STOP IT, GAREAS!!
YOU BITCH!!
WHAT WAS ERNEST'S DEATH TRYING TO TELL YOU?
YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT...
...GAREAS.
TOMORROW'S WEB...

A... NEW... PILOT...
THE INGRID TAKES PRIORITY...!
I WILL REQUEST A PILOT.
UNDER-STOOD.

THE MISSION TAKES PRIORITY
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK OF US?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE HER DO IT NOW!!

WAIT!!!
HAVE THE REPAIRS COMPLETED BY THEN
AS SOON AS HE GETS HERE, WE RETURN TO BATTLE

.....
I'LL HELP YOU, TUNE.
I TRIED SO HARD..
...WON'T COME BACK.. I HAVE TO FIX..
...ALL THE..
...I COULDN'T TELL HIM...!
IN THE END...
...I COULDN'T TELL...
...BUT I...
I...

IT'S NOT TRUE..
...THAT YOU'RE GONE...
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE TO DIE!
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME...!
DAMMIT!
DAMMIT!

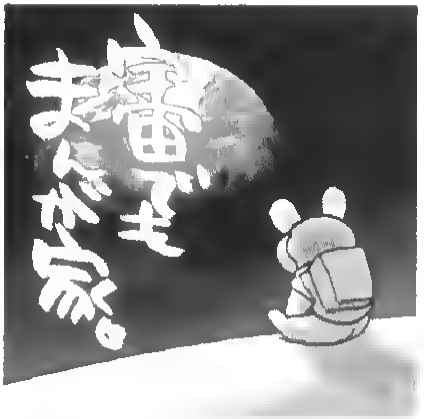
!

NOOO!!
TUNE!
NO...!!
WHY ERNEST-SAN..?!
TUNE, CALM DOWN!!
.....
NOO

I COULDN'T TELL ERNEST-SAN...!!

Una Kleik

To Be Continued
Next Volume

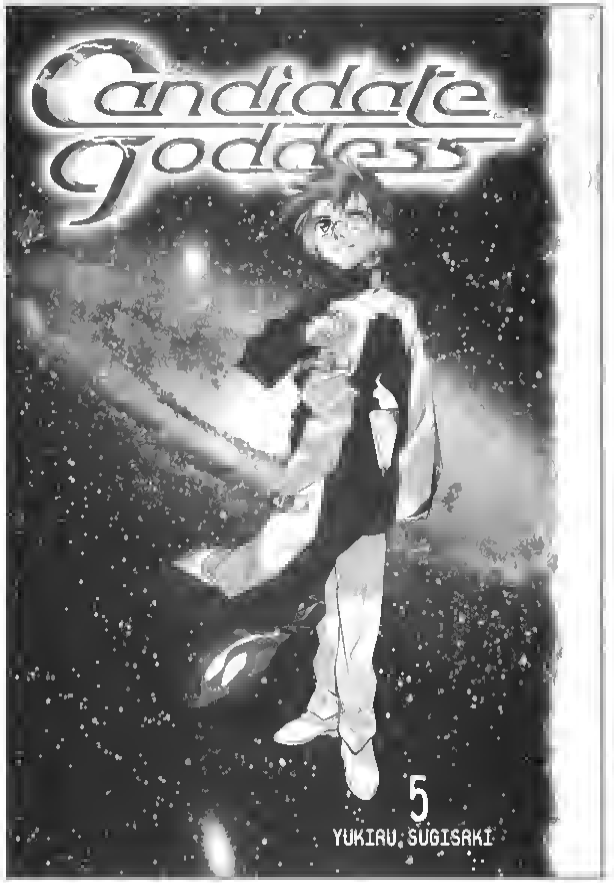


A MANGA-KA EVEN IN SPACE.

YUKIRU SUGISAKI

BLOOD TYPE: O
SIGN: ARIES
RESIDENT OF TOKYO
HOBBIES: GAMES, COLLECTING RABBIT ITEMS, THEATRE
OCCUPATION: MANGA-KA
DREAM: MAKE RICE CAKES ON THE MOON

G·O·A



In the next volume of

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After Ernest's death, Erts Virny Cocteau is promoted from Candidate to Pilot...but that's only the beginning of the dramatic events unfolding! It's also time for the newest class of Candidates to learn if they're moving up...or moving out!

We've already seen Zero get passed over once...could this be as far as he goes?

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the Candidate for Goddess

Hiead and Zero get into yet another fight and are put in a detention room. Meanwhile, Ernest's concern for fellow pilot Gareas grows as he becomes increasingly reckless in battle--but the mess escalates when the pilots are forced into a battle with thousands of Giseisha.

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